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Turkey Day Tussle

JOÃO-CAMERON HOPKINSON | CORRESPONDENT

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By Cameron Hopkinson Dec. 9, 2023

On a cold Thanksgiving morning the Winchester Red and Black fa[illegible] against the Woburn Tanners in the annual “Turkey Day Tussle”

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Thanksgiving football bout. Fun fact, this cherished rivalry dates back to 1891 making it 132 years old!

Fans of players on both sides of the pigskin lined the stands in Woburn's Connolly Memorial Stadium, the home of the Tanners, to cheer on their boys to victory, donning blankets, sherpas, gloves, and all. In the end, as is the unfortunate yet inevitable nature of competition, one side went home victorious and the other defeated. Woburn, despite lagging behind the Red and Black for most of the game, clutched out a hard-fought victory in the final quarter beating Winchester 20-17. Ultimately, it was one player on the Woburn 11 that turned the tide in this game, tying the Winchester and Woburn records at 8-3 in their respective divisions. More on that later.

For this traditional game displaying one of Massachusetts' most iconic rivalries, one could view the "battle" as being fought on two defined "theaters": the field and the stands.

On the fields, the Woburn side was defined by one talented player in particular: Running Back Bryan Ferreira. During the game, while on offense, Bryan scored two touchdowns and racked up 291 yards across 30 rushes. His performance on defense was equally impressive, with two fumble recoveries that helped keep Woburn in the game and break down Winchester's offense.

Individual football prowess was also visible on the Winchester side that day, however less to the extent that it was for the Tanners. Seniors Bronner Keough and Ben Wilson led the charge against Woburn, which contributed to their dominance for the first half of play. Bronner's defensive performance forced two Woburn turnovers and a crucial late first-half fumble recovery; needless to say, this set the bar for relentless defense during the match. Wide receiver Ben Wilson, on the other hand, helped to heighten Winchester's offensive game scoring an impressive 34-y
late in the first half, ending the half 17-6 going into halftime. The

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breakdown: 2 TDs and a 45-yard field goal scored by Kierann in the final moments of the half (nothing out of the ordinary there).

On the stands, a separate but equally dynamic battle was waged between the two sides: the battle of the bands. Of course, the Tanners' marching band was present, blasting tunes from their side of the bleachers. However, it must be mentioned that for this special tradition, the WHS Band too could be seen in the stands - even at an away game. Throughout the game, the two musical "armies" exchanged volleys (in the form of a playthrough of their repertoires), blaring away at the triumphs of their respective teams.

Overall, though an unfortunate loss for the Red and Black, both losing the match and their edge in the 122-year-old series (now tied up at 55-55) it's safe to say that the 2023 Woburn V. Winchester Thanksgiving Game was yet another success. Now that the teams are quite literally "neck and neck", we can only wonder which side will prove to be the "Turkey Titans" in next year's game!

Cameron Hopkinson is a Winchester High School student journalist.

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Winchester High School club hopes art contest will foster interest in Black history, culture

When then-freshman Christie Clark approached Carson Sarpong about becoming a co-founder for her club, Black Student Union, he was hesitant. Three years later, Sarpong is the president, and the club has organized the Black History Project, a contest that invites students to create art about Black history and culture. The

TAVISHI CHATTOPADHYAY | CORRESPONDENT

February 5, 2026

Winchester High School's speech and debate team sees a meteoric rise

Winchester's speech and debate team, like most things, began with only a handful of students competing in its inaugural year and receiving little attention from the school. Yet now, what began as a modest club for fun, has grown into something significant and respected by the entire Massachusetts debate

XIYUE ERIC HAN | CORRESPONDENT

January 30, 2026

SCHOOLS

Winchester High School Athletic Department reschedules open house for 8th graders

The following was submitted by the Winchester High School Athletics Department: On Monday, Feb. 2, the Winchester High School Athletics Department will be hosting its rescheduled open house night for 8th graders from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the auditorium. Come to an informational meeting, meet the coaches, learn

January 27, 2026

EVENTS

Winchester High School Black Student Union launches 'Black History Project' contest, community showcase

The following was submitted by the Black Student Union at Winchester High School: The Black Student Union (BSU) at Winchester High School (WHS) is proud to announce the launch of the Black History Project, a contest designed to foster education, research, and creative expression surrounding Black history and culture. The

January 14, 2026

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Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER

March 4, 2026

FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Wi presents 'Syldason: You Are

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stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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